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Figure 4 is a view of a diagram showing a flow diagram for determining a winning value in a supplemental game,



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The control circuit 7 comprises a communications board 20 in addition to a microcomputer 8. The display means 21 of a jackpot and a data exchange and data balancing of the entertainment automat 1 disposed in the communications network are controlled by the communications board 20. In addition, the microcomputer 8 includes a serial interface not illustrated. A connection is furnished to the communications board 20 with the serial interface (TTL-level). The serial interface is formed as an RS 232 interface.

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The combining of the entertainment automats 1 and the communications of the entertainment automats 1 is performed through the respective communications board 20. Each communications board 20 carries an individual address number, which is once set through a rotary switch. After switching on of the entertainment automat 1 the automatic recognition is performed determining this entertainment automat 1 performed the master function for the slave function. After the switching on, each one of the entertainment automats 1 the automatic recognition is performed as to which entertainment automat assumes the master function or the slave function. After turning on, the entertainment automats wait for a time period of three seconds + (50 milliseconds times individual address number) for a recognition signal of the master. Since at this point in time no entertainment automat 1 has assumed the master function, the recognition signal does not appear. In this case the communications board 20 sends after an additional two seconds a master function assumption signal. According to the above recited time calculation, the entertainment automat 1 with the lowest address number will send this signal first and assumes the master function. The remaining communications board 20 will confirm the receipt of this signal and will behave as slaves in the communications network. The data are actualized, that is the master calls for the data from each individual slave, accumulates the total sum and delivers the data back to the slaves through the communications network every (30 milliseconds times entertainment automat number in the communications network) such that each communications board 20 contains the same data contents. Each slave can assume the master function in case of a failing function of the master thereby. Such a compound offers the advantage of multimaster capabilities. Each communications board 20 contains its own central processing unit CPU 22 with the communications software and all data relevant for the control of the compound and the communications board 20 can therefore assume both the function of the master as well as

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the function of a slave. Based on this feature it is assured that even upon failure of a master at each time the valid state of data and the overall functioning of the system remains intact with the exception of the original master.